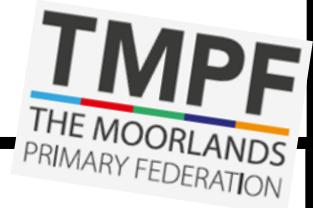




# Words from St. Werburgh's

## Issue 4 - Autumn 2018



### DIARY DATES

*\*New dates in italics\**

27th November	Parent Forum 3.45-4.45pm
30th Nov - 5th Dec	Book Fayre
30th November	Christmas Fayre - 3.45pm
5th December	Y5/6 Confirmation classes begin (for those wishing to receive Sacramental preparation)
11th December	FS/ KS1 Nativity performance - afternoon
12th December	FS/ KS1 Nativity performance - evening
20th December	Pantomime Trip to The Regent Theatre (...oh yes it is!)
20th December	PTA Christmas Disco: 6.30-7.30pm FS/KS1; 7.45-9.00pm KS2
21st December	School closes for Christmas
23rd December	Parish Christmas Carol Service in Church - 4pm
<u>Tuesday</u> 8th January 2019!	School re-opens for Spring Term
Friday 15th February	School closes for Half-Term
Monday 25th February	School re-opens

### WE REMEMBERED

The school were so very proud to join our Parish in several acts of remembrance to mark the centenary of the end of World War I. As you know, our Parish organised a series of poignant events which paid tribute to the brave men, women and animals who fought for their country with the aim of making our world a better place. We were proud to support the events of Armistice Day which included a piper at 6am; a service at the cenotaph at 11am (at which one of our School Council Chairpeople, Mia, and our Head Girl, Jasmine, read beautifully); a special church service of remembrance; and the lighting of the beacon at 6pm. We thank those who were able to join these most special and very memorable events.



Children have been learning about World War I in school and have shown great respect and compassion which truly reflects our school motto (*Love to learn, love God, love one another*) and also their outstanding attitude and behaviour. On Monday 12th November, the School Council and the Chairs of the Worship and Eco Councils attended a special service at the cenotaph, led by Rev. Sue and The Royal British Legion, to lay our school wreath and that of the Kingsley Kingsfishers. At this time, the other pupils within school met in the hall for a moment's silence and to share World War I poetry to help us to remember. We were also very proud to show our support through our website ([www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk)) and through our work with organisations in Cheadle, and particularly our friends at 'Boots', to be part of a display to mark the hundred years since the end of this conflict.

**We Will Remember Them.**

### ARMISTICE SERVICES

On 11th November, we went to the cenotaph to celebrate 100 years since World War I. Whilst we were there, Rev. Sue and Mr Lucas gave us the opportunity to read as part of the service. After we finished at the cenotaph, we walked over to our lovely church, where we had to read our lines again as part of this special Service. We were very proud to be a part of both of these services.

**Lest We Forget.**

By Mia A. and Jasmine B (Y6)

## PARKING AND THREAT FROM FIRST BUSES

As you know, on each newsletter and letter we always request that everyone parks safely and considerately. There is nothing more important than the safety of our children. By always remembering this when we park, we can each do our part in looking after one another.

Following a call from a journalist last week, we were alarmed to hear that First Buses spoke at a Parish Council meeting and are now threatening to remove the service through our village at peak times due to poor and dangerous parking. The removal of this service would, undoubtedly, impact on our whole community. This is something which we do not want to happen.

In relation to this, we issued the following statement:

***St. Werburgh's C.E. (A) Primary School have not received any contact from First Buses in relation to their threat to cancel the service to Kingsley.***

***St. Werburgh's C.E. (A) Primary School are fully committed to keeping the children, parents, staff and community members safe. As such, we regularly remind all of the importance of parking safely and considerately through our newsletters. We are proud that the vast majority of people adhere to the parking restrictions around our school. Outside the school we have zig zags at both the front and back entrances – including opposite one of the bus stops - however, on the bend between these, there are no yellow lines of any form which forbid or restrict parking.***

***School are supportive of a parking review outside the building and welcome police and traffic control measures. We will, as always, continue to promote the importance of safe and considerate parking as safety is of paramount importance to us.***

***The removal of a bus service would impact negatively on not just our school community, but also that of the two secondary schools in Cheadle and the parish as a whole.***

On behalf of the whole St. Werburgh's C.E. (A) Primary and TMPF family, we, once again, strongly urge all to park considerately, safely and within with the law. Reckless parking will not only endanger children and adults, but is now jeopardising the bus service many of our parents and former pupils rely upon. We do not want to lose this vital service and we are sure that you feel the same. We know that the vast majority of our school family follow the parking restrictions, as mentioned in the statement above, and we sincerely thank those who do so for keeping our children and community safe. Should you see anyone parked illegally, or dangerously, please contact the Police.

School representatives have been invited to a meeting with the Police, Staffordshire County Council, the Parish Council, a parishioner and First Buses to see if a solution can be reached which hopefully persuades First Buses to continue to cater for you, the people of Kingsley.

On this matter, can we also remind all that the school car park is for staff, visitors and deliveries only. This car park is small, regularly full and therefore busy, and as such, should not be used as a path into school.

This request is solely for your safety and for the safety of the children and we thank you, as always, for your understanding and support.

## SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

You may have heard in the media that the funding for School Crossing Patrols (Lollipop men and ladies) is being reviewed.

We are so lucky and so proud to have Josie as our wonderful crossing patrol here at St. Werburgh's C.E. (A) Primary and appreciate the excellent job which she does in keeping us all safe and greeting us with a big smile each morning and afternoon.

We have been contacted by a member of the community to ask if we can make villagers aware of a local petition to support the funding of this service being continued by the Council.

Should you wish to contribute to this, please visit:

<https://www.change.org/p/staffordshire-county-council-retain-our-county-council-funded-crossing-patrols>

## ATTENDANCE and LATENESS

Attendance at school is an essential part of a child's education.

We strive to work with you to provide the very best education possible and to do this we need children to attend school as often as possible and on time. We will share attendance figures with you on the newsletter (below), on our website and also on your child's report. We will also continue to offer support with any challenges you may face in terms of attendance or punctuality.

Of course, we appreciate that there are occasions when children have to be absent from school due to ill health, or medical appointments, and we thank you for your support in helping to keep all members of our school family healthy by following steps including the period of 48 hours between the last episode of vomiting and the return to school.

As a school, we will write to you if your child's attendance or lateness becomes a concern as we wish to avoid a situation where the Local Authority will issue you with a fine (please note that **school do not issue fines, nor receive any money from these**), or Education Welfare become involved. Just to remind all, that school opens at 8.45am and the doors close at 8.55am.

We want to be positive by celebrating and rewarding high attendance and therefore we are publishing whole-class attendance figures. Below are each classes' attendance percentages for the week ending 23rd November. NB - These figures have deducted lateness as well as absence.

Reception	94.17%
Year 1	94.23%
Year 2	96.67%
Year 3/4	93.79%
Year 4/5	97.33%
Year 6	97.50%

## KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Please can we continue to remind children to cross the road with our fabulous crossing patrol (lollipop lady) in the mornings and after-school. It has been reported in the media that the council are reviewing this service and many schools have already had crossing patrols withdrawn. We are delighted to still have such a hugely valuable service...and fabulous member of our school family!

May we also take this opportunity to thank those who set such a good example by parking their cars around school with consideration for the safety of our exceptional children, parents, toddlers, grandparents, staff, siblings, aunts, uncles, neighbours and other road users. We urge all drivers to consider the safety of all members of the school family and wider community when parking (please remember to keep off double yellow lines) and driving near to school...I'm sure that you will all agree that walking a little bit further is better than putting anyone at risk.

Quick reminder that our car park is for **staff and visitors only**, please can we also avoid walking across the car park...this is not a pedestrian walkway.

Please can we again request that any adult who collects your child from school is aware that children should not be using the outdoor play area at the bottom of the Key Stage 2 playground either at the start or end of the school day.

May we also politely remind you that dogs should not be brought onto the school grounds (including the driveway at the front of school). Many of us are dog-lovers, but some children are very nervous and upset around them...and none of us want this.

## HOLIDAYS

Please remember that schools are not allowed to authorise leave (unless in **exceptional** circumstances) in term time and any period of unauthorised leave may result in a penalty notice being served by the Local Authority.

Persistent lateness can also result in the issue of a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

## PTA FUND-RAISING

An enormous thanks to our wonderful PTA for the recent fund-raising events...and to all who were able to support them.

On Friday 16th November, using many of your kind donations and also 'goodies' baked in class by the children and staff, we held a Cake Sale. Due to your generosity and that of Leek School of Dance and Vivienne Shelley School of Dance, we raised over £100.

On Saturday 17th November, your PTA managed a stall at the Cheadle Christmas Lights switch-on, selling plenty of wonderful and festive items, kindly donated. At the event, your PTA raised a whopping £400!

On Thursday 22nd November, we were grateful to receive lots of donations for our *Bags2School* collection. The Christmas clear-out of your wardrobes and drawers raised a splendid £105.60.

As you know, the PTA exists to raise much-needed funds for our school and all money is used to support the children in a number of ways. If you wish to support the organisation in raising funds for your school, please speak to one of the committee members at the fayre, or pop into school and we can pass on your details. Names of committee members can be found on our school website.

Your next PTA event is the Christmas Fayre on Friday 30th November at 3.45 in school.

## SPELLING BEE

Through our commitment to providing opportunities across the curriculum, last week the inaugural TMPF Spelling Bee finals took place at our sister school, Bishop Rawle C,E. (A) Primary. Organised by our MAT Literacy team, this celebration of children's literacy saw finalists from all five TMPF schools joining together to show their wonderful skills.

Congratulations to the whole school family for their hard work and to our first-ever finalists:  
Oliver A., Maja, Lyra, Evie-Mae, Ruby and Liam M.

An extra well done to Lyra and Ruby who won their year group category!

**Love to learn...**

## ALL AGE WORSHIP

On Sunday 18th November, we were all invited to All Age Worship at St. Werburgh's Church. The children who went all had different lines to read to the congregation. We all enjoyed it and we learnt more about God and how to worship him.

Thank you to all who joined us and our readers:

Maddison, George E., Jasmine B., Sofia, Arthur, Ellis, Jack N. and Lydia P.

*By Sofia and George E.*

**...love God...**

## SHOE BOX APPEAL

We would like to thank you all for your kind and generous donations to the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal. Your thoughtfulness and support means that lots of children who experience difficulties and poverty will now have the joy and magic of a Christmas present. Thank you.

**...love one another.**

## PARENT FORUM

As you will know from our previous letter and through the website, our autumn Parent Forum will take place in school on Tuesday 27th November from 3.45-4.45pm. The forum is an opportunity for school and parents to meet and discuss a range of issues and for us to also receive your valuable feedback on a number of points. Should you wish any particular points to be added to the agenda please email the school office. We will endeavour to cover as many of these as possible.

The Parent Forum will, however, not discuss specific matters involving individual or groups of children, or of staff. We are sure that you appreciate (and be reassured) that any matters involving children must always go to your child's class teacher.